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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/812,189

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Minna Myllymaki

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SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY L.L.P.  
8000 TOWERS CRESCENT DRIVE  
14TH FLOOR  
VIENNA, VA 22182-6212

EXAMINER

HEIBER, SHANTELL LAKETA

ART UNIT

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/812,189	<b>Applicant(s)</b> MYLLYMAKI ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> SHANTELL HEIBER	<b>Art Unit</b> 2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 January 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-52 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on January 16, 2009 has been entered.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-51 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

3. The applicant argues that ***Chaney fails to disclose or suggest "providing the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on a plurality of simultaneous registrations, said control information indicating a restriction on a number of different contact addresses that can be simultaneously registered using a single public user identity", as recited, in part, in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 19, 32 and 39.***

4. As previously presented, Chaney discloses receiving at least one registration request for registration of a user requesting **(the invention also enables the registration of a service as a group of users)** a service in a network entity in an internet protocol multimedia core network subsystem of a communication system; providing the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on

a plurality of simultaneous registrations (**by requesting the service, users can be added to the group and communicate with each other. The owner may register as a service with the capability of a quiz game that can be played. The owner may specify certain conditions such as a minimum number of players who must register before the game and a maximum number of players who may join the game**) said control information indicating a restriction on a number of users that can be simultaneously registered (**a minimum of two and a maximum of four players who send text messaging back and forth**); and controlling the registration based on the control information. **See paragraphs [0074] and [0075].**

5. Chaney fails to disclose different contact addresses that can be simultaneously registered using a single public user identity.

6. However, Jonsson discloses the method and system of the present invention provides for a subscription group within which each member of that group, for example, a family or a small business, has a private mobile telephone having its own identity in a mobile telephone network. However, the system limits the number of traffic channels which can be used simultaneously by the members of the group for either outgoing or incoming calls to a predetermined number of channels (**members of the group can be simultaneously registered**). **See Col. 3, line 59-Col. 4, line 6 and Col. 4, lines 28-36.** A call attempt by a member of a subscriber group, which includes both the group (a single public user identity) and member identifications (**contact addresses**) of the calling subscriber as well as the number of the called party, is received by the service node 101 at 301. The system identifies the subscriber group from which the call

attempt is being made as well as the member thereof placing the call attempt at 302. At 303 the system retrieves the subscriber records of both the group itself as well as each of the members of the group from memory. **See Col. 7, line 13-Col. 8, line 4.** Jonsson further discloses the subscription group with a common access number **(a single public user identity)** and directing all calls to that number to the service node 101.

The service node provides the calling party with a message asking them to identify the particular member of the subscription group with which it desires connection and in the event assistance is required, provides to the calling party a list of members of the group for selection by the calling party. The list of members of the group provided to the calling party may be restricted to only those members of the group which have informed the service node that they are ready to receive incoming calls. **See Col. 6, lines 27-48.** Clearly, Jonsson discloses different contact addresses that can be simultaneously registered using a single public user identity.

7. The combination of Chaney and Jonsson discloses "providing the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on a plurality of simultaneous registrations, said control information indicating a restriction on a number of different contact addresses that can be simultaneously registered using a single public user identity", as recited, in part, in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 19, 32 and 39.

### ***Claim Objections***

8. Claims 46-52 are objected to because of the following informalities: The examiner would like to point out that the applicant has incorrectly numbered Claims 46-

51 (there are two Claim 46). The examiner has interpreted the claims as 46- 52. The applicant should resubmit the claims in the appropriate order.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 1-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chaney et al. (Chaney), U.S. Publication No. 2003/0108000 in view of Jonsson, U.S. Patent No. 6,115,613.

1. **Regarding Claims 1, 19, 32 and 39**, Chaney discloses a method, a system and an apparatus comprising: receiving at least one registration request for registration of a user requesting a service in a network entity in an internet protocol multimedia core network subsystem of a communication system **(the owner of a game server may register as a service with the capability of establishing a group such as a quiz game)**; providing the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on a plurality of simultaneous registrations, said control information indicating a restriction on a number of users that can be simultaneously registered; and controlling the registration based on the control information **(the owner may specify certain conditions such as a maximum number of players who may join the game);[0074] and [0075].**

2. Chaney fails to disclose different contact addresses that can be simultaneously registered using a single public user identity.

3. In a similar field of endeavor, Jonsson discloses a system and method for providing telephone service to each member of a group of radio telephone subscribers. Jonsson further discloses different contact addresses that can be simultaneously registered using a single public user identity. **Col. 3, line 59-Col. 4, line 6; Col. 4, lines 28-36; Col. 7, line 13-Col. 8, line 4 and Col. 6, lines 27-48.**

4. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide a subscriber service to service users in a telecommunications network (Chaney) allowing a single subscription to be shared by several individuals within a user group thus enabling a lower communications cost per user than a single subscription for each of the users in that group (Jonsson-Col. 1, lines 36-50).

5.

6. **Regarding Claim 2**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose further comprising: determining that at least one user belongs to a same subscription. **Chaney-[0077]**

7. **Regarding Claims 3, 20, 33 and 40**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose further comprising: checking whether at least one of said at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations would be infringed by allowing the registration. **Chaney-[0075]-[0077]**

8. **Regarding Claims 4 and 31**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose further comprising: denying the registration when the checking shows that at least one of said at least one

limitation regarding the simultaneous registrations would be infringed by allowing the registration. **Chaney-[0075]-[0077]**

9. **Regarding Claims 5 and 31**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose further comprising: allowing the registration request when the checking shows that none of the at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations would be infringed by allowing the registration.

**Chaney-[0075]-[0077]**

10. **Regarding Claims 6 and 38**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose further comprising: indicating with the control information a number of the simultaneous user registrations allowed for a subscription. **Chaney-[0075] and [0078]**

11. **Regarding Claim 7**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose further comprising: indicating with the control information a maximum number of the simultaneous user registrations allowed for a subscription. **Chaney-[0075]**

12. **Regarding Claim 8**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose further comprising: indicating with the control information a limitation on a service type (**group service such as a game**) allowed for the simultaneous user registrations for a subscription. **Chaney-[0075]**

13. **Regarding Claims 9, 25, 26 and 29**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose further comprising: storing the control information in a user information storage entity. **Chaney-[0027]**

14. **Regarding Claims 10 and 27**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose wherein said storing comprises storing the control information in a home subscriber server. **Chaney-[0027]**



15. **Regarding Claims 11 and 28**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose wherein the checking comprises checking in a user information storage entity. **Chaney-[0027]-[0031]**
16. **Regarding Claim 12**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose further comprising: sending a request for user subscriber information from said network entity to the user information storage entity. **Chaney-[0027]-[0031]**
17. **Regarding Claim 13**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose wherein the providing comprises providing the control information from the user information storage entity to said network entity. **Chaney-[0027]-[0031]**
18. **Regarding Claims 14 and 21**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose wherein the checking comprises checking in the network entity. **Chaney-[0027]-[0031]**
19. **Regarding Claims 15, 22, 34 and 41**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose wherein said receiving comprises receiving the registration request in at least one of a serving controller and an interrogating controller. **Chaney-[0026] and [0027]**
20. **Regarding Claims 16, 23, 35 and 42**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose wherein the receiving comprises receiving the registration request in the serving controller, and wherein the serving controller comprises a serving call session control function. **Chaney-[0026] and [0027]**
21. **Regarding Claims 17, 24, 36 and 43**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose wherein said receiving comprises receiving the registration request in the interrogating controller, and wherein the interrogating controller comprises an interrogating call session control function. **Chaney-[0026] and [0027]**

22. **Regarding Claims 18, 37 and 44**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose further comprising: counting the simultaneous registrations of the contact addresses. **Chaney-[0075]**
23. **Regarding Claim 30**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose wherein a serving controller comprises the storing unit. **Chaney-[0027]**
24. **Regarding Claim 45**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose wherein contact information is assigned to the individual contact addresses to represent a network address of the corresponding user equipment used to register with the network entity. **Chaney-[0044] and [0045]**
25. **Regarding Claim 46**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose wherein a plurality of contact addresses are registered to access at least one service under a single subscription registered with the network entity. **Chaney-[0037]**
26. **Regarding Claim 47**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose wherein a subscriber is registered with the network entity as being subscribed to a plurality of subscriptions for services. **Chaney-[0037]**
27. **Regarding Claim 49**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose wherein a public user identity is used to represent a plurality of private user identities. **Jonsson-Col. 6, lines 27-39.**
28. **Regarding Claim 51**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose wherein a single public user identity is used to represent a plurality of users operating a corresponding plurality of user equipments which are simultaneously registered with the network entity under a

single subscription registered with the network entity as the single public user identity.

**Jonsson-Col. 4, lines 28-36 and Col. 6, lines 27-39.**

29. **Regarding Claim 52**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose wherein the registration is controlled based on contact information assigned to the individual contact addresses.

**Chaney-[0044] and [0045]**

30. Claims 48 and 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chaney and Jonsson in view of Salin, U.S. Patent No. 6,501,948.

31. **Regarding Claim 48**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose the apparatus as described above.

32. Chaney and Jonsson fail to disclose wherein at least one private user identity is registered with the network entity as representing a subscriber of a plurality of subscriptions for services.

33. In a similar field of endeavor, Salin discloses call forwarding in a telecommunication system. Salin further discloses wherein at least one private user identity is registered with the network entity as representing a subscriber of a plurality of subscriptions for services. **Col. 1, lines 20-23 and lines 45-48.**

34. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide a subscriber service to service users in a telecommunications network (Chaney) allowing a single subscription to be shared by several individuals within a user group thus enabling a lower communications cost per user than a single subscription for each of the users in that group (Jonsson-Col. 1, lines 36-50) further controlling of forwarded calls of a closed user group (Salin) yielding predictable results.

35. **Regarding Claim 50**, Chaney and Jonsson disclose the apparatus as described above.

36. Chaney and Jonsson fail to disclose wherein a private user identity is used to represent a plurality of public user identities.

37. Salin disclose wherein a private user identity is used to represent a plurality of public user identities. **Col. 1, lines 20-23 and lines 45-48.**

38. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide a subscriber service to service users in a telecommunications network (Chaney) allowing a single subscription to be shared by several individuals within a user group thus enabling a lower communications cost per user than a single subscription for each of the users in that group (Jonsson-Col. 1, lines 36-50) further controlling of forwarded calls of a closed user group (Salin) yielding predictable results.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SHANTELL HEIBER whose telephone number is (571)272-0886. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:30pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edouard Patrick can be reached on 571-272-7603. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2617

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/S. H./

Examiner, Art Unit 2617

April 10, 2009

/Patrick N. Edouard/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2626